

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 PC-04 AID-20 RSR-01 /135 W
----- 006722

R 061725 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8685

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PINT MR MO

SUBJECT: REPORT OF ANTI- MAURITANIAN SIT- IN AT RABAT

1. MAURITANIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS STAGED SIT- IN AT MAURITANIAN EMBASSY RABAT APRIL 5 ACCORDING TO ISTIQLALI FRENCH- LANGUAGE DAILY " L' OPINION." PAPER SAID STUDENTS WERE PROTESTING ATTITUDE OF " PUPPET REGIME" IN NOUAKCHOTT TOWARD THEM AND AGAINST " WAVE OF REPRESSION" IN MAURITANIA AGAINST THOSE DEMANDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OR ROLE IN DETERMINING PEOPLES' FUTURE.

2. ON MORE PRACTICAL SIDE, PAPER SAYS STUDENTS ALSO PROTESTING GIRM' S ALLEGED FAILURE TO PAY SCHOLARSHIPS OR PROVIDE MEDICAL COVERAGE AND PASSPORTS. PAPER ALSO REPORTS " DEMOCRATIC UNION OF MAURITANIAN STUDENTS" FULLY BACKING SIT- IN WHICH IT SAYS IT INTEGRAL PART OF EFFORT OF ALL MAURITANIANS TO REMOVE " YOKE OF EXPLOITATION AND SERVITUDE..." ORGANIZATION PLEDGES TO STRUGGLE UNTIL " POLITICAL OPPRESSION PERPETUATED BY VALETS OF COLONIALISM IN NOUAKCOTT" IS ENDED. THIS OPPPRESSION PROVEN BY LARGE NUMBER OF VICTIMS SHOT BY TROOPS OF MAJOR BEN MAYOUT DURING WORKERS' DEMONSTRATION AT ZOUIRATE IN 1969 AND LATER, " L' OPINION" CONCLUDES.

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3. IT NOT CLEAR WHETHER ABOVE ITEM CONSTITUTES NEW ISTIQLAL
PARTY POLICY LINE ON GIRM OR WHETHER IT VOLUNTARY ATTACK
BY " L' OPINION' S" EDITORS WHOM PARTY SOURCES HAVE SAID ARE
HARD TO CONTROL. OFFICIAL PARTY PAPER, " AL- ALAM," DOES
NOT MENTION REPORTED SIT- IN.
ROCKWELL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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